

Published for the employees of SPAWAR Systems Center, Charleston

SSC Charleston teams earn 'Lightning Bolt' awards from SPAWAR headquarters.

(see details beginning on page 4)

The Chronicle

SPAWAR Systems Center, Charleston P.O. Box 190022 North Charleston, SC 29419-9022

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SSC Charleston's Mission —

What we do

We enable knowledge superiority to the warfighter through the development, acquisition, and life cycle support of effective, capable and integrated C4ISR, IT, and Space systems.

SSC Charleston's Vision —

Where we want to be in the future We will become the premier provider of C4ISR, IT, and Space capabilities.

Commanding Officer, Captain Nancy L. Deitch, United States Navy

Editor: Lynda Silvers

Photographer: Harold Senn

The Chronicle is a bimonthly publication designed for SPAWAR Systems Center, Charleston's employees. Its purpose is to inform, educate, entertain, and generate new ideas. An official publication, The Chronicle is printed on recyclable paper using appropriated funds in compliance with Navy Publications and Printing regulations. Contents of The Chronicle are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, the Dept. of Defense, or the U.S. Navy.

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The Chronicle can also be viewed from our web site: www-chas.spawar.navy.mil.



On Dec. 6, President Bush signed an Executive Order giving all executive branch departments and agencies of the federal government an extra holiday on Dec. 24. While we will certainly enjoy this additional time with family and friends, let us not forget those members of our armed forces, as well as the civilians, who are on call 24 hours a day defending our country and our freedom so that we might enjoy our holidays — Ramadan, Hanukkah, Christmas, Kwanzaa, etc. — in peace.

President Bush asked all government agencies, communities, and countries around the world, to hold remembrance events on Dec. 11, the three-month anniversary of the Sept. 11 attacks. At precisely 8:46 EST, the time the first airplane struck the World Trade Center, SSC Charleston employees gathered outside the main engineering center for a moment of silent prayer. Jay Walker then played *Taps*, we recited the Pledge of Allegiance to our flag, and sang our national anthem — things that have so much more meaning today, than just a few months ago.

Let us continually remember the families, friends, and coworkers of the victims of Sept. 11. The added burden of grief is particularly difficult during an already stressful time of year. Keep all of them in your thoughts and prayers, and pray for peace on Earth. God bless America!

— Lynda Silvers Chronicle Editor

Capt. Nancy Deitch's mother, Phyllis Lambert, passed away Dec 3 in Pennsylvania following a brief illness. Our deepest sympathy is extended to Capt. Deitch and her family during this sad time in their lives.

SPAWAR team captures 'Joint' approval — wins DoD lab certification



n Oct. 22, the Joint Tactical Radio System (JTRS) Joint Program Office (JPO) announced the selection of the SPAWAR Systems Center team as the JTRS JPO Technology (JTel) Laboratory. The lab is responsible for certifying the Software Communications Architecture (SCA) compliance and waveform applications compliance for the newly developed JTRS sets for all of DoD.

Ten labs competed for the designation. The winning SPAWAR team comprises members from the Systems Centers in San Diego and Charleston.

The JTRS is an enabler of information superiority on the battlefield. The SCA — the basis for all future DoD tactical radio acquisitions — is a specified set of rules, methods, and design criteria for implementing reprogrammable digital radios, and will be used to support real-time, distributed, embedded software radio applications.

Additionally, the SPAWAR JTel team will validate performance testing on waveforms, serve as the JTRS program's software support activity, and maintain configuration control of waveform documentation and the baseline waveform applications that will be ported to all JTRS sets. The JTRS JTL

will closely coordinate with the Joint Interoperability Test Command for waveform interoperability testing, and with the National Security Agency for security testing.

The SPAWAR JTel Team, as the lead government laboratory, will receive assistance from other DoD labs with various academic communities, local industry, centers of excellence and specific expertise centers to create a *best of breed* virtual lab environment.

Colonel Steven MacLaird, United States Air Force, is the JTRS program director. The deputy director is Colonel Michael Cox, United States Army. Margaret Powell, SCA management division chief, manages the JTRS SCA testing efforts; **Dr. Rich North** of SSC San Diego heads the SPAWAR JTel Team, with **David Smoak** of SSC Charleston as the deputy. **Mike Shirley** of SSC Charleston is the JTel business manager; and Lt. Cmdr. Miguel San Pedro of SSC San Diego is the JTel chief engineer. A ribbon-cutting ceremony was held at the SSC Charleston conference center on Nov. 20 with most of the major participants from around the country attending.

SSC Charleston teams earn headquarters' LIGHTNING BOLT AWARD

In 1996, SPAWAR headquarters established the Lightning Bolt Award to recognize exceptional team effort and notable accomplishments. Although the award has been given to teams at the headquarters level, to date, SSC Charleston is SPAWAR's only Systems Center to receive the coveted award. Rear Adm. Dave Antanitus (SPAWAR 04/Installations and Logistics) made a special trip to Charleston on Nov. 16 to present four — not just one or two, but FOUR — Lightning Bolt Awards to four separate teams within SSC Charleston.

Rear Adm. Antanitus and Capt. Deitch arrived at the Engineering Support Facility (ESF) Division (J62), located on the old naval base, at 8 a.m. to present the first team award in recognition of the ISO 9001 Registration. The ESF team—all of the workers in ESF—went above and beyond their normal daily efforts.

ISO 9001 is an International Quality Management Standard that requires defined processes focused on meeting customer requirements. The initiative to achieve registration to ISO 9001 began in mid-2000 and involved an almost complete overhaul of the approach the ESF uses for management, engineering, and execution. In meeting the 72 requirements of the standard, steps were taken to formalize the review of customer agreements, define the activities of the design and engineering process, embed a tighter degree of process control, implement complete quality assurance review of products and services, and formalize the means of customer feedback. Compliance with the standard required the commitment and performance of every single one of our government and contractor teammates. Registration was granted on July 24, 2001, by independent auditors who remarked that our level of process control was among the best they had ever seen—in government, or in industry.



From left: James Ward, head of the Communications and Control Systems Department (J60), Scott Crellin, head of the engineering Support Facility Division (J62), Buddy Thomas, head of the QA and Operational Support Branch (J624), Rear Adm. Antanitus, and Capt. Deitch after the presentation of ESF's Lightning Bolt Award.

As the team leader, **Buddy Thomas** received the Lightning Bolt plaque on the team's behalf. Individual team members received a lightning bolt lapel pin in recognition of their outstanding accomplishment.

With one presentation under their belts, Rear Adm. Antanitus and Capt. Deitch headed to Charleston's main engineering center where proud team members and curious coworkers gathered in the atrium.



he shipboard installation team in Norfolk — Keith Topping, Linda Barnes, Johnnie Holland, Cmdr. Art Billingsley, Paul Klementowski, Donald Powell, Hal Vancura, and Joe Shannon — responsible for the extensive work completed on the USCGC Legare, received a Lightning Bolt Award for their accomplishments.

The Navy recently teamed with the Coast Guard to form a more formidable force during exercises and deployments. The *USCGC Legare* was to deploy with the *USS Enterprise* Battle Group in May 2001; however, the Commanderin-Chief, Atlantic Fleet could not identify funding to provide *Legare* with SIPERNET capability. SPAWAR teamed with CINCLANTFLT, MLCA, COMSECONDFLT, NCTAMSLANT, and contractors from Atlas, Delphi, and Milcom to deliver the *Legare* a SIPERNET capability within three weeks of initiation.

Skillful leveraging of team resources resulted in the successful installation and operation of component hardware to provide this critical communications link. The *Legare's* commanding officer said, "This installation was completed in record time with minimal problems or disruption to the crew. Significant effort was expended to complete this installation. This installation could serve as a prototype for future efforts to achieve cutter connectivity."

Through the efforts of all concerned, *USCGC Legare* is currently deployed and on station in the Mediterranean. This installation was directly responsible for allowing the Battle Group commander more flexibility in the employment of all battle group assets.

Mike Johnson of the C4ISR Superintendent and Fleet Support Office (J0F) accepted two plaques and awards for our folks in Norfolk.

The shipboard installation team in Norfolk — Keith Topping, Linda Barnes, Johnnie Holland, Cmdr. Art Billingsley, Paul Klementowski, Donald Powell, Hal Vancura, and Joe Shannon — responsible for the extensive work completed on the USS LaSalle, also earned headquarter's recognition and the Lightning Bolt Award for their efforts on this project.

SSC Charleston was tasked with accomplishing the fiscal year 2001 C4ISR work plan on the *LaSalle*. After extensive negotiation, the determination was to conduct the fiscal year 2001 selected repair availability in Cotturna, Malta. Although this generated financial and equipment delivery challenges for SPAWAR, the team met them head on. In a forward deployed area, using a facility that has not dealt with front line warships in over 24 years, these entities teamed to do work that would normally be assigned for completion during a major overhaul and in a naval shipyard. Due to the extensive coordination between SPAWAR, the two contracting companies (SRU Naples, the Malta Dry Docks), and SUPSHIP Pensacola, installations were successfully accomplished.

The JMAST Team gathers in front of SSC Charleston's main engineering center.



The Joint Mobile Ashore Support Terminal (JMAST) team provides engineering design and analysis, production, fabrication, hardware and software integration, installation, and logistics products and services in response to tasking from PMW 157 at headquarters. The JMAST team earned recognition for the Lightning Bolt Award because of their extraordinary efforts during a national crisis.

Rick Pass accepts the Lightning Bolt Award plaque for the JMAST team.

When America was attacked on Sept. 11, this team was asked to provide the JMAST system to the Commander in Chief, Atlantic Fleet (CINCLANTFLT) in Norfolk, Va., the following day. The system was already in production, but it was not scheduled for delivery to CINCLANTFLT until Nov. 30.

The attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon immediately put military facilities in Threat Condition Delta, and all nonessential personnel (including the JMAST team) were sent home at 10 a.m. on the 11th. It was after that when the call came requesting immediate delivery of the JMAST system. The team members were recalled, with 100 percent response. The task required significant effort to complete as much software and hardware integration as possible, ready the system for packing, document the system, pack it, arrange for transportation, and deliver it to CINCLANTFLT.

The JMAST team worked through the night and into the next day. They rallied in solidarity to support our warfighters' needs, and accomplished this Herculean task. The JMAST system was delivered to CINCLANTFLT at midnight on Sept. 12. With our nation in shock, an incredible amount of effort was freely given without consideration of their personal safety or sacrifice. As a result of their efforts, SSC Charleston was able to answer the call of our nation and our warfighters to deliver the JMAST system in time to meet CINCLANTFLT's emergent requirement.

The JMAST team proved themselves indispensable in support of our national defense. **Rick Pass** accepted the Lightning Bolt Award plaque for the JMAST team. Individual team members received a lightning bolt lapel pin in recognition of their outstanding accomplishment.

JMAST Team Members

Government Employees: Ronald Handrop, PMW-157, program office coordination; Sharon Dement, J612 logistics, worked through the night and the entire next day; Dan Emerson, J61C CDO, coordinated with SPAWAR and CLF, as well as NWS Security; Ralph Hudson, J614 JMAST project engineer, coordinated team efforts, tested system; Kenneth Huffingham, J612 logistics lead, worked through the night and the entire next

day; Ricardo James, J614 ET1, tested and prepped communications; James Jones, J614 JMAST assistant project engineer; Kenneth Kassel, J613 testing lead; Raziuddin Khan, J614 MOCC project engineer, assisted with INMARSAT and system test preparations; Patrick Kleeman, J614 RMAST project engineer, assisted with system test and preparations; William McQuaid, J612 logistics/site support, worked through the night and the entire next day; David Monahan, J61C Tac/Mobile lead, coordinated efforts with SPAWAR and CLF; Larry Moore, J614 ETC, tested and prepped communications; Rick Pass, J614 mobile systems lead, coordinated team efforts; Linda Snowden-Peninger, J616 CM, prepped classified hard drives for shipment; Sharlonda Tullock, J612 logistics, worked through the night and the entire next day; Nancy Kutch, JOAE CMS, prepped crypto for shipment, prepared courier letters; and Wanda Yantek, J131 material management, coordinated trucks and warehouse personnel.

Contractor Employees: Kenneth Boggs, EMA communications technician, built and tested VICS radios; Alonzo Bradley, EMA communications technician, built and tested cables; Matthew Campbell, EMA, ADP technician, built and tested UNIX and NT, networks, routers; David Dobry, AVERSTAR, ADP technician, built and tested UNIX and NT, networks, routers; Michael Edwards, AVERSTAR, SHF technician, built

AVERSTAR, ADP technician, built and tested UNIX and NI, ers; Michael Edwards, AVERSTAR, SHF technician, built and tested SHF, mux's, crypto; John Eleazer, EMA logistics technician, packed system and coordinated warehouse and shipping; Tim Herold, EMA site support, tested and loaded system; Larry Huffma, EMA communications technician, built and tested communication systems; Stephen Klim, EMA site support, tested and loaded system; Michael Lozada, AVERSTAR analyst, tested system, prepared training documents; Marcos Marrero, EMA logistics technician, packed system and coordinated warehouse and shipping; Robert McInnes, AVERSTAR analyst, tested system, prepared training documents; Arturo Moreno, EMA logistics technician, packed system and coordinated warehouse and shipping; Frank Morris, EMA analyst, tested system, prepared train-

ing documents; Kenneth Perry, EMA ADP technician, built and tested UNIX and NT, networks, routers; Larry Phillips, EMA automated data processing technician, built and tested UNIX and NT, networks, routers; Nicholas Puchetti, EMA lead technician, coordinated efforts; Lorna Raisbeck, EMA drafting, prepared drawing packages; Kenneth Riden, AVERSTAR analyst, tested system, prepared training documents; Roland Robbins, EMA logistics technician, packed system and coordinated warehouse and shipping; John Shelton, EMA site support, tested and loaded system; Joseph Smelser, PRB S/W integrator, loaded software, prepped drives for shipment; Wayne Sutton, TITAN SHF technician, built and tested SHF, mux's, crypto; **Brad Stewart**, PRB software integrator, loaded software, prepped drives for shipment; **John Thompson**, EMA SHF technician, built and tested SHF, mux's, crypto; Roger Tulk, EMA communication technician, built and tested communication systems; Richard Washington, EMA logistics technician, packed system and coordinated warehouse and shipping; Charles Webb, AVERSTAR analyst, tested system, prepared training documents; James Williams, AVERSTAR analyst, tested system, prepared training documents; Laura Huffingham, EMA logistics, coordinated transportation; Wesley Peterbark, S3 Ltd. Material management, retrieved equipment from warehouses; and Gary Washington, S3 Ltd. material management, retrieved equipment from warehouses.

1st Virtual

Connecting Technology symposium — a huge success

By Nancy Reasor CHIPS Assistant Editor

The tragic events of Sept. 11 changed our lives in many ways. Heightened security concerns in the DoN prevented our traditional format for the Fall 2001 Connecting Technology (CT) symposium in San Diego, Calif.; but disappointment turned into an exciting opportunity for the CT team to excel down a new avenue. With only 30 days to plan and organize the event, the CT wizards elegantly accomplished what at first seemed an impossible task.

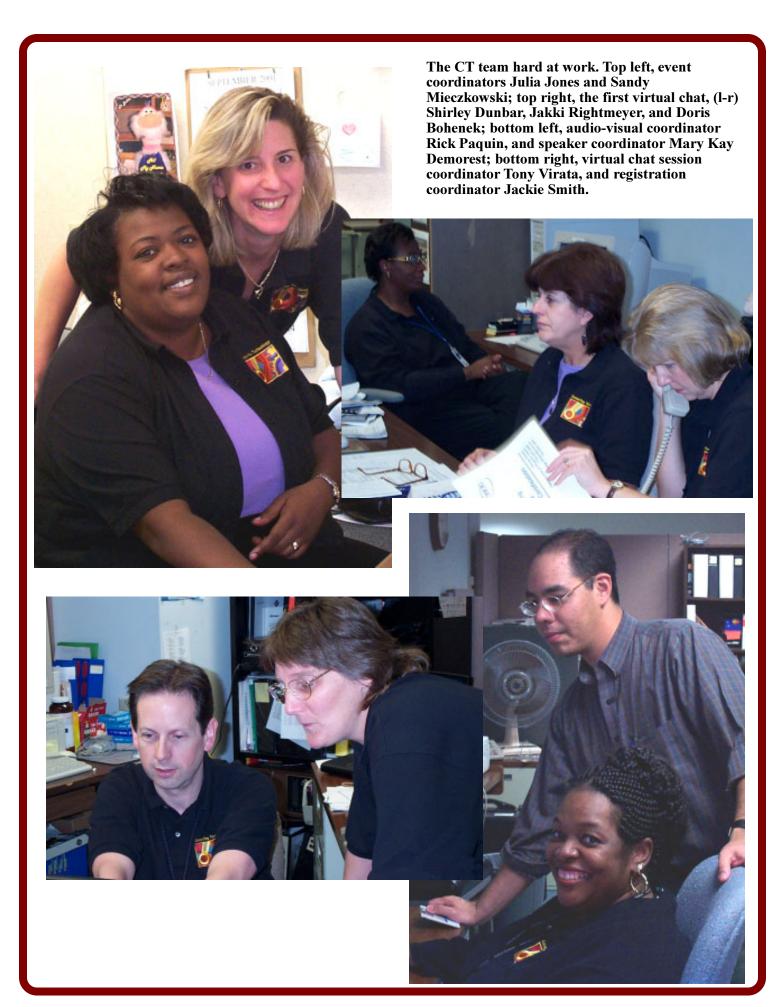
With no outside assistance, the CT team planned and executed the first Virtual CT symposium. This new virtual event was a result of the CT staff's exceptional technical skills and many hours of hard work. In his opening remarks, Dan Porter, DoN Chief Information Officer (DoN CIO), said, "This is the first time we have actually stressed the paradigm of CT — connecting people via technology. This event is being brought to you completely through cyberspace — whether it's chat rooms, video presentations, or roundtables — all of it will be done this year through the magic of CT." The CT staff's dedication resulted in a wonderfully successful three-day virtual event with a variety of presentations, videos, and virtual chat sessions. Rick Engle, principal technology specialist at Microsoft Federal Government, one of the guest speakers, said, "... this was a super effort by the Navy to move from a live to virtual conference." Captain Jerry Peeters, DoN CIO team lead for communications and outreach, said, "This is truly a first for CT, and I think you've all done a great job in putting it all together."

The Virtual CT Fall 2001, sponsored by the DoN CIO and the DoN Information Technology (DON-IT) Umbrella Program, featured many outstanding speakers — Rear Admiral Kenneth Slaght, Commander, Space and Naval Warfare Systems Command; Dan Porter, DoN CIO; Alex Bennet, deputy CIO for Enterprise Integration; Dave Wennergren, deputy CIO for E-Business and Security; Susan Bostrum, senior vice president, Internet Business Solutions Group, Cisco Systems, Inc.; John Connors, senior vice president of finance and administration and chief financial officer, Microsoft; Doug Wakefield, information technology access specialist, United States Access Board; and Ken Nataka, attorney, Civil Rights Division, Depart-

ment of Justice. Some of their topics included FORCEnet, a network centric approach; Section 508 accessibility; Navy Marine Corps Intranet (NMCI); enterprise resource planning; wireless security; web security; full dimensional protection; and critical infrastructure protection and privacy protection. There were over 25 PowerPoint presentations from industry and the Navy (videos with many of them) and 14 virtual chat sessions held over the three-day symposium.

Virtual CT was planned and organized by a core team of nine individuals, working under the direction of the Technical Specifications & Acquisitions Branch head, Bob Abernethy. The CT event coordinators were Julia Jones and Sandy Mieczkowski; speaker coordinators, Karen Kaniewski and Mary Kay Demorest; audio-visual coordinators, Doris Bohenek and Rick Paquin; and registration coordinators, Jakki Rightmeyer and Mark Williams. The virtual chat session coordinators were Mark Williams and Tony Virata; moderators and screeners for the chat sessions, Billy Bunton, Patrick Koehler, Gail Holzsweig, John McLaurin, Jakki Rightmeyer, Shirley Dunbar, Calvin Finley, Jackie Smith, Elizabeth Vonasek, and Nancy Reasor.

During his keynote address, Rear Adm. Slaght said, "Much appreciation to DoN CIO and DoN-IT Umbrella Program for their ingenuity and flexibility in making CT a virtual event in which we can all still take part." We would like to thank everyone who participated as a speaker, vendor, or guest. We hope to see you at Connecting Technology Spring 2002 at the Pavilion Convention Center, Virginia Beach, Va., May 14-16. Go to the CT Web site at www.itumbrella.navy.mil/ct for further information and to register online.





Ken Crawley visits

'The Ice'

Ken Crawley, an engineer in the Expeditionary Communications Branch (J536), recently completed his first trip to Antarctica where he was part of a telemetry relay system site installation team. In the photo above, Ken sits in the aircraft bound for *The Ice*.

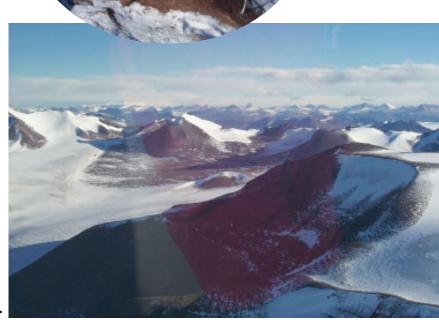
The helicopter drops the slingload.



"The working conditions were typically severe with temperatures of minus 30 degrees and 35-knot winds," Ken said. On the first day's mission, "The helicopter crew did an outstanding job with the slingload, enabling the successful placement of three rock anchors and three pipe anchors on a steep, 40-foot rise," Ken said.

As is often the case in the Antarctic, work the following day was hampered by layers of weather, making it impossible for the crew to debark on target. Instead, the crew and equipment were unloaded and temporarily deposited on a lower level ridge where the team did what work they could from that position. "But bad weather quickly rolled in," Ken said, "and the pilot called it quits."

Ken said, "The third day was a postcardperfect day at both sites with no wind and mild 0 degree temperatures," and the team once again debarked at the installation site to complete their mission.



Rock anchors stabilize the

antennae.

On the way home, oh what a beautiful sight.

Meeting the nation's expeditionary warfare needs and reducing interoperability risk

By Ken Ayers (LP<mark>D 17 Test Team Lead) and Dr. Carol F. Smith (SCN C4ISR Logistics Manager)</mark> Integrated Systems Branch (J333)

xpeditionary! It's more than just a word. It's a mindset
— a way of operating that has its roots in the birth of
the United States Navy and Marine Corps some 225
years ago. And it is the foundation for 21st-century
peacetime forward deployments, responses to crises
worldwide, and warfighting to protect America's citizens,
friends, and vital interests wherever and whenever they
might be at risk. It is the essence of naval operations from
the sea — anytime, anywhere.

The Navy and Marine Corps have put in place a well-crafted transformation strategy to ensure that the nation has the naval expeditionary forces (ships, aircraft, weapons, and systems) to carry out a full spectrum of roles, missions, and tasks in the new century. The projected twelve LPD 17 San Antonio-class amphibious assault ships are vital elements of this transformation strategy and are the DoN's top expeditionary warfare priority. They are the foundation for extending the expeditionary warfare excellence tradition well into the 21st century.

These ships will be equipped with a fiber-optic Ship Wide Area Network (SWAN), which connects ship systems, sensors, and combat systems to the ship's command consoles. Realizing that continuous leaps in technology are expected over the next 40 years, resident ship computers will be in a plug-in and fight configuration—allowing hardware to be more easily and appropriately replaced by newer technology as necessary over the ship's lifetime. Moreover, LPD 17 will have extensive command, control, communications, computer, and intelligence (C4I) systems that will fully support current and projected expeditionary warfare missions.

The LPD 17 San Antonio class continues to be on the leading edge of new product and process innovations in all areas of the acquisition cycle. A new approach to test program coordination and management has been adopted by the LPD 17 Combined Test Team (CTT). Current trends such as fiscal conservancy, technological leaps, and manpower shortfalls have highlighted the necessity of doing it smarter and getting it right the first time.

For any acquisition test program, there are two principal test philosophies: Developmental Testing (DT) and Operational Testing (OT). The primary emphasis of DT is to ensure the ship is capable of performing its mission based on the satisfactory demonstration of established critical technical parameters. OT, on the other hand, is structured to determine the effectiveness and suitability of a system under operationally realistic conditions and to determine if the minimum acceptable operational

performance requirements (as specified in the Operational Requirements Document) have been satisfied. The LPD 17 CTT

ting it right the first time. butions of ens

A special THANKS to the following folks:

Code 30: Mike Cullison and Rick Strickland (J333); Tom

Mataosky and Todd Cooper (BAE SYSTEMS);

Charmaine Narciso-Jiao (EMA); and Don Wagner
(Honeywell).

Code 50: Dave Fuller and Genie Goodwin (J523); Rick Mahlie (J532); and Gary Hutson (EMA)

Code 60: John Christensen, Ray Morales, and Richelle Lewis (J616); Mark Hartgrove (J635); Bruce Brown (AMSEC); Terry Shatzer (COMPTEK-PRB); Brian Mallak (EMA); Jim Houston (MANTECH); Ryan Parker and Shelby Merrick (PRB); Matthew Vermette (PRC); Kris Bailey (SRC); and Toby Straight (TITAN).

Code 70: Bob Ballentine (J70E), and James Sawyer (J731).

has reinvented these approaches to implement both test philosophies — known as Design Integration Testing (DIT).

During earlier land-based testing, the CTT noted that future integration of Marine Corps systems was a major risk and that these system requirements had not been incorporated into the DIT plans. The existing LPD 17 contract baseline provided only space and weight for Marine Corps systems. The design provided for nine equipment racks in the Combat Information Center unattended equipment room and one equipment rack in the Automated Data Processing room. This design approach did not specify the SWAN's connectivity or port assignments for Marine Corps systems beyond the baselined Global Command and Control System-Maritime client work stations. To address these concerns, the major acquisition systems commands (SPAWAR, Naval Sea Systems Command, and the Marine Corps) and the shipbuilder committed to the development of a USMC C4I DIT test plan that would test currently fielded Marine Corps systems.

Since the LPD 17 program has been structured to ensure seamless integration of Navy and Marine Corps assets, SSC Charleston's Systems Integration Branch (J333) hosted and participated with the other members of the LPD 17 CTT during the week of Nov. 5th at our command's Government Test Integration Facility to validate this test plan. Their primary objective was to test the abilities of currently fielded Marine Corps C4I systems to operate and pass data over the SWAN. They also verified the compatibility of those systems with the shipboard-provided network services (i.e., email, directory, shared files). Additionally, they demonstrated the network's capability to accommodate growth and multiple data paths for embarked Marine Corps C4I systems. The C4I systems that were tested include the ship representative lab systems and elements of the actual equipment to be installed on LPD 17.

When the first sailors and Marines step onboard the USS San Antonio in 2004, they will bring forward a history of expeditionary operations from the sea that began more than two centuries ago. They will also quickly realize the value of the CTT's contributions of ensuring a seamless integration of Navy and Marine

Corps assets. The successful completion of this phase of testing is directly contributed to the synergy and hard work of many individuals across the entire SPAWAR corporation. The cando attitude and enthusiasm of several SPAWAR employees working as a team with NAVSEA, MARCOR, and the shipbuilder — played a key role in helping us achieve our goals. The logistics and coordination to support this testing have been complex, but manageable, and is a direct result of our commitment to the

ultimate owners of these ships — the sailors and Marines of the expeditionary forces.

Staying INFORMed just got easier

By Kathy Hurley Communication Systems Department

Don't know what work skills or special training your personnel have? Never seem to have all the INFORMation you need to answer a data call, and have to wing it to respond in time? Do you often go outside your organization to *borrow* a needed skill, only to be INFORMed later that someone under your charge is an expert in that field? Did you ever check your own personnel record and find that important INFORMation was missing, and that perhaps you lost a promotion because of that?

If any of this sounds familiar, don't despair. The SSC Charleston INFORM Database is now available. This readily accessible database contains command personnel information — training, leave and earnings records, military and civilian personnel records, security badges, and more.

INFORM provides:

- Electronic access to personnel data (no previous access permitted by typical command personnel);
- Consolidation of multiple personnel data systems maintained by individual departments;

- Managers and employees have a readily accessible, easy to use, consolidated view of personnel with download capability for further analysis;
- Reliable and accurate INFORMation satisfies official data calls:
- Means for individuals to establish and share individual skills.

Managers can use INFORM to identify personnel with skills necessary to perform new tasking, and expedite the completion of travel and security forms. Managers can also quickly identify which of their employees are currently on committees, enabling them to share collateral duties across their department.

INFORM is accessible on our command Intranet under Corporate Resources. Click on "I" or scroll down to Inform and Inform Data Search. With the Inform Data Search, you can query work experience, job functions, equipment, program systems, committees, and certifications.

Managers, please do your part by providing up-to-date information on your employees. Employees, check out your file, fill out the information about you, and update as required. If you have any questions about INFORM, call Kathy Hurley.



Legal Notes

Ethics violators prosecuted

By Gail Silverman, Legal Counsel

Many SSC Charleston employees (those who file financial disclosure reports) are required to complete annual ethics training every fall. We always emphasize that some violations of our conflicts of interest and post government rules are criminal in nature. Here are some unpleasant examples of federal employees being prosecuted for these types of violations. Please call the legal office anytime you have a question about what conduct is appropriate, especially when dealing with a government contractor.

Federal Employee Solicits Work from Contractor Leading to Conflict of Interest Indictment.

On Sept. 19, 2001, the U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Florida, Orlando, Fla., indicted a Defense Contract Management Command (DCMC) employee charging her with conflict of interest. The employee, a DCMC GS-14 engineer, while conducting a system review at Intellitec, Inc., cited the company for not developing an Integrated Logistics Support (ILS) procedure as required by the contract. She directed an Orlando DCMC engineer to issue a Correct Action Request (CAR), citing Intellitec for not having ILS procedures, thereby compelling Intellitec's compliance. The employee, through her own consulting business, agreed to write the ILS procedures for Intellitec and have the CAR rescinded. On February 20, 2001, she delivered the ILS documentation in her consulting capacity and was paid \$12,000 by Intellitec. If convicted, the employee faces a maximum confinement of five years and a fine of \$50,000.

Former Employee Pleads Guilty of Violating Conflict of Interest Law by Attempting to Influence His Former Agency on Behalf of a Government Contractor.

On Oct. 24, 2001, a former employee of the National Reconnaissance Office (NRO), pled guilty in a U.S. District Court in Alexandria to violating the two year representation ban in 18 U.S.C. 207 that restricts former executive branch officers and employees, for two years after leaving federal work, from communicating with their former agencies on matters previously pending under their official responsibility during their last year of federal employment. The former employee was stationed at the NRO from 1994 to 1996, serving as director of the research and technology sector for imagery intelligence. During that time, he approved funding for a project to be developed by Science Applications International Corp., (SAIC). After leaving the NRO, the employee went to work for SAIC. Less than two years after leaving NRO, he urged an NRO official to allocate agency funds to be used for installation of a classified electronic communications network terminal at an SAIC office. Part of the funds came from the same project the former employee had approved as an NRO director. Sentencing is scheduled for Jan. 15, 2002. Under federal sentencing guidelines, he could face a maximum of six years in prison and a fine. An article published in the Daily Newspaper of Alexandria describing this case can be found at http://www.jrnl.com/archivestories/ fxfp1025200105.htm.

Ongoing efforts at the Pentagon

By John Griffiths Information Systems Administration Branch (J781/Washington)

The information Systems Administration Branch (J781) folks who support the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff at the Pentagon were back at their desks the morning after the Sept. 11 attack, and are still hard at work.

Operations within our immediate work area continue as before, but many of our activities have been affected. For example, we now spend more time thinking about safety procedures. One of the first things we did was to contribute to the evacuation process lessons learned. There was a lot of interaction with other groups in our physical area, and we came away with a plan to better handle future incidents. Besides the more mundane improvements to the plan, we now have a sledge hammer ready to create an exit should a fire prevent us from leaving through our regular door, and flashlights to help us find our way through unlit exit routes should we lose the electricity (we have no windows).

There are many visible changes in our physical environment. Bus stops have been moved farther away from the building, camouflaged "air sniffers" are located in roped off areas of the parking lots to detect chemical attacks, and heavily armed airborne troops check ID s and bags at the south parking entrance where I enter.

Bulletin boards in the corridors display pictures and

obituaries of all the people killed during the attack. School children across the nation sent drawings, which are hung on the hallway walls. I am particularly drawn to one sent by the Francis Scott Key Middle School of Fairfax Virginia which, amid small individually signed stars on its eight foot length, declares to the terrorists "We are Still Here."

One day a few weeks ago someone went from desk to desk passing out small plastic covered pictures of the workers draping a huge flag on the side of the building. I think this was done when the president spoke there shortly after the incident. At first, I thought it might be just some sort of sentimental sort of thing. However, when I turned it over, beneath the "In Rememberance, 11 September 2001" was the phone number and e-mail address for USACHPPM, the group that is monitoring the psychological and physical effects of the attack on Pentagon personnel — a clever way to have people keep the number handy.

All in all, we are coping very well. Despite some minor inconveniences, we are still providing the best possible support to the Chairman. I think the kids from Frances Scott Key said it best. We are still here.

TRICARE changes mean lower healthcare costs for reservists

By Sgt. 1st Class Kathleen T. Rhem, USA American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON, Nov. 19, 2001 — DoD officials have enacted healthcare system changes to make life a little easier for reserve component members and their families following the Noble Eagle/Enduring Freedom call to active duty.

The most significant change is a national demonstration project that waives all TRICARE deductibles for family members of Noble Eagle/Enduring Freedom activated reservists and guardsmen for care received since Sept. 14. TRICARE officials realized many of these families probably paid deductibles for their civilian health plans earlier in the year. They didn't feel it fair for them to shoulder another financial burden just because their sponsor was called up toward the end of the year, said Coast Guard Lt. Cmdr. Robert Styron, regional operations officer for the TRICARE Management Activity.

Another change for reserve component members is that TRICARE will pay for up to 115 percent of what is usually allowed for care under existing guidelines. Styron said the change would help reservists who live far from active military facilities in areas that don't have TRICARE provider networks. Their families probably would end up paying more out of pocket if TRICARE hadn't agreed to the higher fees.

The third change is that TRICARE officials have waived

the need for Guard and Reserve family members to obtain nonavailability statements before receiving care from a civilian provider. Styron said DoD acknowledges many reserve families have existing relationships with civilian providers. "If you've already got these established relationships with a provider, we're not going to get in the way. We will allow you to continue seeing providers you know," he said

Active duty family members don't need a nonavailability statement if they're far from a military treatment facility. If they live near a military facility, however, they generally need the statement or they must pay for the care themselves

DoD officials have explained that families of reserve component members called up for at least 30 days are eligible to use TRICARE benefits. Families of those activated for at least 179 days are also eligible to enroll in TRICARE Prime, which offers the most cost-effective way for military families to receive medical care.

For more information on these new benefits and on healthcare for reservists and guardsmen, visit TRICARE for the reserve components at www.tricare.osd.mil/reserve/default.htm.

Employees give from the heart — CFC goals exceeded!

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Congratulations to SSC Charleston's Combined Federal Campaign team! And a special thanks to our employees, not only in Charleston, but also in the Washington, D.C., Norfolk, Va., Jacksonville and Pensacola, Fla., areas. This year our contributions totaled over \$210,000, far exceeding our goal of \$156,796. In the wake of everything that has happened over the past few months, we all reached deep into our pockets to help support relief efforts in New York and at the Pentagon, along with local, national, and international charities within CFC.

Thanks to our CFC coordinators Rondi Akers (Charleston), Sharon Moore (Pensacola), Judy Soffer (Jacksonville), Karen Swanson and Deborah Lilley (Norfolk), Anita LaVallee and Calvene Williams (Washington).

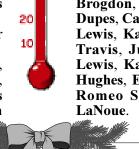
Our keyworkers also deserve recognition for their hard work:

In Charleston: Sherri VonBehren, Louise Eggertz, Helen Devera, Michelle Rehr-Matash, Hazel Grant, Ginger Hilton, Linda Mason, Carolyn Shaw, Russ Young, Gloria Wilson, Richard Strickland, Tim Gartman, Sharon Mock, Debbie Whitley, Wanda Bradley, Sheila Dawson, Maxine Smith, Stacey Parson, Louise Moran, Nikki Smith, Nadine Wilson, Lynn Lair, Linda Morris, Paulette Shiell, April Saulisbury, Roger Aldridge, and Jane Dingus.

In Pensacola: Jane Stitt, Sharon Reynolds, Gail Hethington, and Cindy Everhart.

In Washington: Susan Morgan, Calvene Williams, Jenny Sullivan, Cynthia Smith, Charles Ezelle, Pat Deleo, Sigrid Eliott, and Harvey Shapiro.

Jacksonville held a Silent Auction to benefit CFC. The auction committee was: Kathleen McFarland, Kate Deaton and Pat Lewis. The following folks donated items for the auction: Belle Barnhill, Kim Brogdon, Sandra Cullers, Kate Deaton, Lynda Dupes, Camille Farley, John Free, Sabra Hull, Pat Lewis, Kathleen McFarland, Judy Soffer, Steve Travis, Juanita Champion, Nancy Edson, Pat Lewis, Kathy Stearman, Sarah Sullivan, Roger Hughes, Eileen Jenung, Yiu Jeung, Milton Price, Romeo Salazar, Charlie Vaughn, and Harry LaNoue.



'Loaned Executive' finds experience rewarding

By Gwen Caldwell

Corporate Information and Management Systems (J09B-GC)

I recently served as SSC Charleston's Loaned Executive to the Combined Federal Campaign for the 2001 Trident Area Combined Federal Campaign. A Loaned Executive is a federal employee who is loaned to the area's CFC for the duration of a specific campaign. My assignment began Aug. 27 and ended Nov. 17

Loaned Executives help the Campaign coordinators at various federal activities run a successful employee drive at their respective organizations. We are expected to know about the CFC and how to coordinate a fund raising campaign. We help plan the presentations and, in some cases, actually do the main portion of an agency's program, including showing the campaign video, scheduling guest speakers from local agencies, and arranging tours so employees can see first hand how a specific agency provides services to the community. My accounts included twelve activities both in the DoD and other federal agencies. I am proud to say my accounts conducted very effective and successful campaigns, exceeding all goals set for this year's campaign.

The Trident Area Combined Federal Campaign raised \$1,394,367 dollars, helping the community exceed their most challenging goal ever — \$7,000,000 — for a grand total of \$7,021,524. The Combined Federal Campaign raised 20 percent of the community's total donations, and for the first time ever, individual contributions increased 19.6 percent over last year. This is the first time that any one division of a campaign has achieved a 20 percent increase. As part of the approximately 17,000 federal government workers in the Charleston area, we can be proud of our accomplishments during this Campaign. I am honored and very proud to have represented SSC Charleston and to be part of a workforce that cares so strongly about helping our neighbors and our community.



Middle schoolers write essays about the price of freedom

SSC Charleston partners with Hanahan Middle School. As a Veteran's Day project designed to raise patriotic awareness and to promote good writing, the Congressional and Public Affairs Office asked the students to write an essay about freedom — It has been said that freedom is not free. Why have so many of our military men and women given their lives so freely for our great nation?

The task was issued to 49 students on Friday, Sept. 7. Little did we know what would happen on Sept. 11, just four days later, that would make this assignment so incredibly real and important to these students.

The essays, which were delivered to the VA Hospital in Charleston, were all written straight from the heart. It was extremely difficult to determine a winner. They were all winners. But the judges (all SSC Charleston volunteers) — Patricia Ancrum (J115), contract specialist; Lynda Silvers (J0A6), publications editor; Diane Kobs (J1113), administrative specialist; Cassandra White (J632), engineer; Tom Reiff (J713), engineer; Howard Ash (J713), technician; Arliene Sports (J0A6), command webmaster; and Rondi Akers (J0A7), technical specialist — also had a task. The top four essays are reprinted here for your enjoyment.

#1 — Freedom's Price, by Brian Battey (8th grade)

As we have read in history books, as well as in the news, there have been in both the past and the present people who have been willing to sacrifice their lives for our country; countless numbers of heroes who have put our country and the lives of everyone in it ahead of their own hopes and dreams. They are the brave men and women who wear the uniforms of firefighters, police officers, and the various branches of the United States Military who, in their death, ensure our life. They will go to great lengths to do what must be done, regardless of the consequences. Why is it that these people give their lives so freely for the sake of freedom?

First of all, let's figure out in our minds what exactly freedom is, and why it is so important to us. To be free is to be able to make your own choices. These choices can range from what you eat for breakfast to where you go to college or work. Our country puts little, if any, constraint on what choices we make. What constraint is enforced can be circumvented by our own determination and effort. For example, if our score on a test is not high enough to get us into our chosen college, we can work harder to bring up the score so we can follow through with our choice.

Another part of being free is being able to voice your opinion without persecution. Being able to say our thoughts has lead to many good things. Instead of being limited to the minds of government officials, the government listens to the general public as well. This allows everyone to be aware of and address problems more quickly and efficiently. If that isn't enough, we even get to choose our own representatives to make the important decisions that control the direction of our freedom, by way of election.

The final aspect of freedom is security. Security (which can be breeched if we take our freedom for granted) is very important to our ability to make choices. If bombs were going off outside our doors all the time, many of our choices would be chained down because of fear. Being secure means we can do things that other, less free countries couldn't. This is mostly because of our fallen heroes. The military is all about ensuring security, and eliminating the threats that hover over the lives of our citizens, such as tyranny and terrorism. Not only in the military do they fall to protect our security, but in the ranks of firemen, rescue workers and police officers are those who are willing to sacrifice their lives for our freedom. Now that we've established the meaning of the freedom they are protecting, let us speculate the motivation behind their actions.

Many of us have a sense of duty deep down inside of us, whether to our families, our friends, or to the earth itself. Sadly, there are those who have a sense of duty to other, less important, things, such as property, money, or themselves. A great deal of the people who give their lives for others are doing it out of a sense of duty to our country, or to mankind. To fulfill this obligation, many of us will stop at nothing to protect that which we defend. This duty, although mostly just natural, may be brought on by guilt over something a person did (or didn't do) in the past that caused or helped cause something bad to happen that they feel requires them to make up for it.

Another reason that many people give their lives is the thought of a life without freedom. Without the ability to make choices, life would have very little appeal and would be long and arduous. Without the ability to voice our opinions, almost no one would be happy, except those making the decisions and choices for us, of course. Finally, without an insurance of security, our lives would be dictated by fear and uncertainty. The very thought of this existence, not just for their loved ones but for any of the freedom-loving people of this country, spurs our protectors on to eradicate the threat that would force it upon us if given the chance.

A final and very prominent reason that many of us make sacrifices is the teaching of religion. Most of the world's religions, especially Christianity, teach us to love all people and protect one another in times of need, as well as to humble ourselves and put others' needs before our own. Through these teachings, we are not hesitant to save others for the sake of a better life for humanity.

Whatever the reasons behind the willingness of many Americans to sacrifice their lives for freedom, we will always be grateful. I hope that we can all stand together to support these heroes, and that, if the time comes, we, too, will be willing to take a stand for freedom, and for what we believe is right. These fearless souls have had a special place in the hearts of Americans in ages past, and will continue to be honored and admired in the years to come.

#2 — Freedom is Not Free, by Jenni Souba (6th grade)

Why have so many of our military men and women given their lives so freely for our wonderful nation? I think there are three reasons. One reason is because they love our country. The second reason is to save innocent citizen's lives. Finally, they want to protect their loved ones. If we want our nation to stay free, we need people like this to defend it.

Their love of the country is so strong, anything can happen. It is so powerful that it will never die. We all feel so upset about the events of September 11th, it is like a rush of anger and sadness is flooding our country. If we don't do anything about it, we will all drown. Military men and women are willing to risk their lives, leave their families and die if necessary to protect and defend our country. That is how strong their love is.

There are so many innocent people who have lost their lives or their loved ones. These military men and women feel sad and upset about the loss of thousands of innocent Americans that they want to see to it that it never happens again. In order to prevent this from ever happening again, they will go to war if the President tells them to. Though these men and women are innocent, too, they know the right thing to do is to go to Afghanistan or anywhere else to get the people who made this tragedy happen, and make sure they can never do it again. If they can accomplish this, no other innocent men and women will be killed by the terrorists.

Finally, these men and women want to protect their loved ones. They know a terrorist could very well hurt people in their own families, just like what happened to the families of the people in New York. As they are protecting the country, they are also protecting their own states, their own cities, their own neighborhoods, their own homes and their own families from anyone who would try and take it from them through terrorism. If they die, they know they die a hero's death. They know their great great grandchildren will remember them for their patriotism.

In conclusion, freedom is not free. America always has been and always will be strong and free because we have military men and women willing to fight and die for our country. But it is not only the military men and women that make the sacrifices. Their families do, too. The family stays behind when they go to war. They worry about their loved one, wondering if they are alive, dead, or wounded. They send them off not knowing if they will ever return. How do I know these things? Because my dad is Commander James R. Souba of the United States Navy. He would willingly fight and die in defense of our great country, the United States of America. So would I.

#3 — The Price We Pay For Freedom, by Anna Jackson (8th grade)

In times such as these, when our country is under attack, we are faced with questions that we normally push aside and don't take the time to consider. The true meaning of the statement saying that freedom is not free, is one of these questions. We also find ourselves asking, "How can men and women be so brave that they would risk their lives to die for our country?"

At another time this issue may be debated, but as the situation stands, I think everyone agrees that freedom is not free. Freedom was bought by the time, dedication, and

blood of our forefathers, and by the determination of Americans that live to this day. It is also preserved by people like the present military who are postponing their lives so that they can be ready to go into battle whenever they are needed. All of these things that they have given up are extremely valuable and expensive, and by no means free. Even so, they give up their lives.

Many people do not understand how anyone could risk their lives just for a mass of land, but the citizens of the United States know better. Our country represents the idea that all men are created equal, that people should have the right of freedom of speech and religion, and the idea of a government ruled "by the people, for the people." They know that their deaths are not in vain, and they are willing to do whatever it takes so that Americans in the future will have the rights and liberties for which they sacrificed their lives.

There are so many people who consider war terrible. They are scared to fight and do not think it is worth it for people to die. Yet they do not realize that death is not the worst thing in life. The worst thing is not having anything or anyone worth dying for. The people who have died and are willing to die are extremely courageous, and should be held in high esteem among everyone.

Therefore, the reason freedom is not free is because it was bought by the men and women who freely gave their lives so that we could keep it. As we go through this crisis, we need to be continually reminded of these people, and to make sure that we never forget how much they sacrificed for us.

#4 — Freedom is Not Free, by Tyler Legette (6th grade)

Freedom is not free! All throughout history patriotic men and women have died proud to be Americans. Why have our military men and women paid the ultimate sacrifice for our great country? Was it because they cared too much about our freedoms, like freedom of speech and religion? Or was it just because they loved their country too much to see it fall?

Freedom of religion is an important reason. Freedom of religion means you can believe in whatever religion you want to, and attend any church, temple, or mosque you want to go to. I don't want this nation to be like Afghanistan where you have to be a Muslim, or maybe be arrested.

Freedom of speech is another important freedom. Having freedom of speech means you can speak your mind. It also means other people can say things against you or your beliefs. In Afghanistan if you speak against the Taliban you can be arrested, or executed.

The most important reason is they love their country too much to just give up. They love their country too much to not even try at all. They would rather die than see our country taken over by enemies of freedom.

In conclusion, I think these are some of the reasons so many people have died for our great nation. I say freedom is not free, because so many men and women have fought and died protecting it. That is the price of freedom.

Editor's Note: These letters appear exactly as written. They were not edited for publication. Don't you think they did a wonderful job?

Over 401 years of experience lost as 19 retire

Mary J. Russell, a DA-560-III supervisor in the General Accounting Division (J012) at our Norfolk office, retired Sept. 3. She had 34 years and four months of dedicated service to SPAWAR and to the U.S. Government.

Robert N. Tran, a DS-334-III technical specialist at our Norfolk, Va., office, retired Sept. 15. He had 17 years of service to SPAWAR and our country.

Dennis C. Bookhultz, a DS-334-III technical specialist in the Systems Administration Branch (J764) at our Washington, D.C., office, retired Sept. 30 after 33 years and nine months of dedicated service to the U.S. Government.

Dennis began his federal career in 1967 as a GS-2 electronic accounting machine operator at the Bureau of Naval Personnel. He moved on and up with positions at the U.S. Government Printing Office, and the U.S. Naval Security Group Command where he worked his way up to division head for world-wide distribution of COMSEC material. Dennis then moved on to NARDAC/NCTSW, and finally to SSC Charleston where he became the senior support technician for NCTSW desktop support and account manager.

Dennis consistently performed demanding duties in an exemplary manner, while quickly learning a variety of skills and effectively performing numerous essential daily tasks, and excelling at teamwork and client support.

Throughout Dennis' career, many of his peers and organizations recognized his professional abilities. Deborah Hasty, Dennis' immediate supervisor, said, "Dennis was an important member of our customer support center for NCTSW/SSC Charleston National Capital Region (NCR), providing exemplary support for both our internal IT customers and external customers. He was on special call for some of our more difficult customers and assisted with management of the CSC functions in addition to his regular duties."

Harold L. Brand, a DS-334-III technical specialist at our Norfolk office, retired Sept. 30 following 35 years of dedicated service to the U.S. Navy.

After retiring from the Navy, Hal became a civil servant in 1985 as a GS-11 computer programmer with the Naval Regional Data Automation Center. There he was assigned to work on projects for the Naval Aviation Rework Facilities. Hal's dedication and high level of expertise was quickly recognized, and he earned a Special Act Award — the first of many accolades.

Throughout his career, Hal served as team leader and team member — often both at the same time — for several critical projects, including the Navy Civilian Payroll System. He always willingly tackled any task that would help the branch, division, or department.

Most recently, Hal's support of TRI-CARE Management

Activity projects resulted in numerous letters of appreciation from a very happy customer.

Rosa P. Brock, a DG-561-II assistant in the General Accounting Division (J012) in our Norfolk office retired Sept. 30 following 25 years and six months of dedicated service to SPAWAR and the U.S. Government.

Vivian I. Buttler, a DS-334-III technical specialist in the former J411 branch in our Norfolk office, retired Sept. 30 following 35 years and seven months of dedicated service to SPAWAR and the U.S. Government.

Karen Lee Kaniewski, a DP-1550-III computer scientist in the Technical Specifications and Acquisitions Branch (J645) in our Norfolk office, retired Nov. 17 following 22 years and nine months of dedicated service to SPAWAR and the U.S. Government.

Karen began her federal career in 1979 as a GS-5 computer specialist at the Naval Supply Center Norfolk in the Data Processing Department's Technical Support Division where she worked with the systems data communications handler on the Burroughs mainframes. In 1982, she moved to the Navy Regional Data Automation Center Norfolk where she held a varied number of positions. Karen was part of the organizational merger into the Naval Computer and Telecommunications Area Master Station Atlantic and later the SSC Charleston Norfolk office. During those years, Karen entered the computer scientist series and worked as a team leader in the DoN Information Technology Umbrella contracts program as a team leader for technical support and the Connecting Technologies conference. David Chapman, head of the Knowledge Delivery Branch (J642), said, "We will all miss Karen's presence, wit and steadiness towards her work and colleagues."

Howard E. Cartledge, a DP-334-IV manager in the Knowledge Delivery Branch (J642), retired Sept. 30 following 35 years and nine months of dedicated service to SPAWAR and the U.S. Government.

Eddie began his federal service in 1965 at the Naval Supply Center Norfolk as a GS-3 electrical accounting machine operator and later held positions as a peripheral computer operator until he became a computer programmer with the Fleet Material Support Office Norfolk in 1972. In 1980, Eddie joined the Data Processing Services Center Atlantic as a computer specialist and held that position with the Navy Regional Data Automation Center Norfolk, the Naval Computer and Telecommunications Area Master Station Atlantic, and SSC Charleston Norfolk office. During those years, Eddie worked as a division and branch head in systems software, data communications, and local area networks. David Chapman said, "Eddie's unique tal-

ent for bringing out the most in people will be missed by everyone."

Bette J. Glenmore, a DS-334-III in the former J493 branch in our Washington office, retired Sept. 30 following 33 years and three months of dedicated service to SPAWAR and the U.S. Government.

Carolyn A. Horne, a DP-1102-IV manager in the Systems Accounting Division (J113) in our Washington office, retired Sept 30 following 24 years and nine months of dedicated service to SPAWAR and the U.S. Government.

Carolyn began her civil service career in Washington, D.C., with the Naval Computer and Telecommunications Station and the Defense Intelligence Agency at Bolling Air Force Base. In addition, she held positions in Frankfurt, Germany, and Ft. Eustis, Va. In Feb. 2000, Carolyn joined SSC Charleston as a contracts manager. She has earned numerous performance and special act awards.

Richard P. Kekic, a DP-503-IV manager in the Business Services Department in our Washington office, retired Sept. 30 following 33 years and three months of dedicated service to SPAWAR and the U.S. Government.

During his career, which began as a GS-7 accountant with the Naval Audit Service, Richard continuously progressed with positions at the Navy Accounting and Finance Center, Naval Data Automation Command, Navy Regional Data Automation Center, Naval Computer and Telecommunications Station, and finally as deputy business services manager at SSC Charleston.

Audrey D. Kent, a DA-1102-III administrative specialist in the Budget and Statistics Division (J114) in our Norfolk office, retired Sept. 30 following 26 years of dedicated service to SPAWAR and the U.S. Government.

Audrey's federal career began at the Navy Public Works Center in Norfolk. She transferred to SSC Charleston in Oct. 2000 as a contract specialist. During her career, Audrey earned 20 outstanding performance ratings and four superior performance awards. The loss of an employee with her experience and ability will surely be felt.

Patricia Lange, a DA-342-I administrative specialist in the Administrative Services Branch (J0AW4) in our Washington office, retired Sept. 30 following 33 years and three months of dedicated service to SPAWAR and the U.S. Government.

JoAnn Lewis, a DS-334-III technical specialist in the former J422 branch at our Norfolk office, retired Sept. 30 following 24 years and four months of dedicated service to SPAWAR and the U.S. Government.

JoAnn's federal career began in 1977 as a computer programmer. When she transferred to the Naval Regional Data Automation Center, she designed and developed the Norfolk brig and the mess management systems. JoAnn provided end-user training and outstanding support 24 hours a day. Her dedication to duty turned a small short-term project into a long-term effort employing a team of computer specialists.

The Norfolk Brig system was selected as the Navy standard system and evolved to the Corrections Management

Information System, sponsored by the Bureau of Naval Personnel. Throughout many leadership changes at the BUPERS project office, you have been a mainstay of that project, providing continuity and knowledge expertise. JoAnn is widely recognized as the leading Navy subject matter expert for CORMIS. The system is also used at the largest U.S. Army corrections facility at Ft. Leavenworth.

Alan W. Mansfield, a DS-334-III technical specialist in the former J413 branch in our Norfolk office, retired Sept. 30 following 21 years of combined military and civilian service to SPAWAR and the U.S. Government.

Rose M. Short, a DS-334-III technical specialist in the Systems Analysis and Engineering Branch (J775) in our Washington office retired Sept. 30 following 32 years and one month of dedicated service to SPAWAR and the U.S. Government.

Charles D. Williams, a DS-1702-I technical specialist in the Support Services Division (J0AP) in our Pensacola, Fla., office, retired Sept. 30 following 19 years of dedicated service to SPAWAR and the U.S. Government.

Anthony LaBaron Young, a DS-391-III technical specialist in the Network Infrastructure Branch (J562) in our Pensacola office, retired Nov. 4 following 17 years and three months of combined military and civilian service to SPAWAR and the U.S. Government.

Joliene L. Bowers, a DP-1102-IV manager in the Contracts Office (J02), retired Dec. 1 following 35 years and four months of dedicated service to SPAWAR and the U.S. Government.

Joliene's federal career began in 1965 at the Army Mobility Equipment Center in Charleston. As she moved up the career ladder, she held contracting positions at Naval Facilities Engineering Command, Naval Supply Center, Fleet and Industrial Supply Center, and SSC Charleston.

Throughout her career, Joliene consistently demonstrated exceptional competence, commitment, and imagination. Her extraordinary skill and knowledge of government contracting have proven to be of great value in serving the Navy and the SPAWAR community. Because of her expertise, coworkers and peers frequently asked for her advice and guidance, which she generously and self-lessly provided. Joliene earned numerous awards over the years, an acknowledgement of her outstanding ability.

To each of you we say, "Thank you for a job well done!" You have served your country, the U.S. Navy, and SSC Charleston very well. While the loss of your expertise, your shared experiences, and your individual abilities will surely be felt throughout the Navy community, your long years of devoted service to the fleet, to this command, and our country have truly earned you this retirement.

We wish for each of you many years of good health, prosperity, happiness, and joy. We salute you for your many years of faithful service, and in the traditional Navy way, we wish you...

Fair winds and following seas!

